

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at Page 4, line 31 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 2a and 2b illustrates two rough cross-sectional views of comparing the present invention (2a) with the prior art (2b);

Please replace the paragraph beginning at Page 4, line 33 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 3a and 3b illustrates two cross-sectional views of filter assemblies according to the present invention where filter elements or membranes having different diameters are used;